IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-52 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method Method of sending a digital signal, including comprising the steps of: according to which: - a watermarking operation is performed, consisting of

inserting a watermark, which is known to a receiving end, in the digital signal, so as to obtain a watermarked digital signal; signal, - an encoding operation is performed, consisting of

encoding the watermarked digital signal by means of an encoder, so as to obtain an encoded watermarked signal which can be decoded by means of a parametrisable iterative decoder; and decoder; and - a sending operation is performed, consisting of

sending said the encoded, watermarked signal, wherein the sent, encoded watermarked signal is processable by the receiving end to obtain the watermark, to compare the obtained watermark to a known watermark, and to modify signal, whereby in the receiving end, at least one parameter of the decoder can be modified according to the a result of the comparison between a the watermark obtained from the sent, encoded watermarked signal and the known watermark.

2. (Currently Amended) A sending Sending method according to Claim 1, wherein said encoding step encodes the watermarked digital signal using the encoder is a turbo-encoder.

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3. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ method according to Claim 1, further ~~comprising the step of~~ ~~wherein a modulation operation is also performed, consisting of~~ modulating the encoded watermarked signal before ~~the~~ performing said sending step ~~operation~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ method according to Claim 3, wherein said modulating ~~the modulation~~ step ~~operation~~ modulates ~~consists of modulating~~ the encoded watermarked signal by means of a modulation of the QPSK type.

5. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ method according to Claim 3, wherein said modulating ~~the modulation~~ step ~~operation consists of modulating~~ modulates the encoded watermarked signal by means of a modulation of the OFDM type.

6. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ method according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~the watermarking~~ watermark insertion step ~~operation~~ uses a technique of the fragile or semi-fragile type.

7. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ method according to Claim 1, wherein said watermark insertion step is performed on a digital signal comprising ~~is~~ an image signal.

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8. (Currently Amended) A device ~~Device~~ for sending a digital signal, comprising ~~having: - watermarking means, for~~

watermarking means for inserting a watermark, which is known to a receiving end, in the digital signal, said watermarking means outputting a watermarked digital signal; ~~signal, -~~

~~encoding means, for~~

encoding means for encoding the watermarked digital signal by means of an encoder, said encoding means outputting an encoded watermarked signal decodable ~~which can be decoded~~ by means of a parameterisable iterative decoder; and ~~decoder, and -~~

~~sending means, for~~

sending means for sending said encoded watermarked signal, wherein the sent, encoded watermarked signal is processable by the receiving end to obtain the watermark, to compare the obtained watermark to a known watermark, and to modify ~~signal, whereby in the receiving end,~~ at least one parameter of the decoder ~~can be modified~~ according to the result of the comparison between ~~a~~ the watermark obtained from the sent, encoded watermarked signal and the known watermark.

9. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 8, ~~the preceding claim,~~ wherein ~~the~~ said encoder is a turbo-encoder.

10. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 8, <u>further</u> <u>comprising</u> ~~wherein also having~~ modulation means for modulating the encoded watermarked signal.

11. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 10, wherein <u>said</u> ~~the~~ modulation means <u>modulates</u> ~~modulate~~ the encoded watermarked signal by means of a modulation of the QPSK type.

12. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 10, wherein ~~the~~ <u>said</u> modulation means <u>modulates</u> ~~modulate~~ the encoded watermarked signal by means of a modulation of the OFDM type.

13. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 8, wherein ~~the~~ <u>said</u> watermarking means use a technique of the fragile or semi-fragile type.

14. (Currently Amended) A sending ~~Sending~~ device according to Claim 8, wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> digital signal is an image signal.

15. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ of decoding a received digital signal, ~~said~~ <u>the</u> digital signal having been watermarked with a known watermark, ~~including~~ <u>comprising the</u>

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steps of: ~~according to which: -~~ ~~a decoding operation is performed, consisting~~

~~of~~

decoding at least part of the <u>received</u> digital signal by means of a parameterisable iterative

decoder; ~~decoder; -~~ ~~a watermark extraction operation is performed,~~

~~consisting of~~

extracting the watermark from the decoded <u>signal;</u> ~~signal,~~

~~- a comparison operation is performed, consisting of~~

comparing the extracted watermark with ~~the~~ <u>a</u> known <u>watermark; and</u> ~~watermark; and a~~

~~modification operation is performed, consisting of~~

modifying<u>,</u> if necessary<u>,</u> at least one parameter of the <u>decoder</u> ~~decoding~~ according to the

result of the comparison <u>in said comparing step</u>.

16. (Currently Amended) <u>A decoding</u> ~~Decoding~~ method according to Claim 15,

<u>wherein said decoding step comprises the step of performing a number of decoding</u>

<u>iterations on at least part of the received digital signal, and</u>

wherein ~~the~~ <u>said modifying</u> ~~modification~~ <u>step</u> ~~operation~~ <u>comprises the steps of:</u> ~~includes:~~

~~- an operation of~~

calculating the number of <u>decoding</u> iterations ~~to be applied to the decoding,~~

~~consisting of~~ <u>by</u> determining ~~a~~ <u>the</u> number of <u>decoding</u> iterations to be applied as a parameter of

the decoding <u>operation</u>, according to the result of the <u>comparison; and</u> ~~comparison; and -~~

~~- an operation of adjustment of~~

adjusting the ~~decoding operation performed by said decoding step by decoding,~~ ~~consisting of~~ applying <u>to at least part of the received digital data</u> ~~during decoding~~ the number of ~~iterations~~ previously determined <u>decoding iterations</u>.

17. (Currently Amended) <u>A decoding</u> ~~Decoding~~ method according to Claim 15,

wherein <u>said decoding step performs</u> ~~the decoding operation is~~ a partial decoding operation <u>by</u> ~~operation, consisting of~~ decoding the <u>received digital</u> data by means of an iterative decoder, <u>and</u> applying <u>a decoding</u> ~~an~~ iteration or a <u>decoding</u> half-iteration, so as to obtain a partially decoded watermarked digital signal, and

wherein ~~the~~ <u>said modifying</u> ~~modification operation~~ step <u>comprises the steps of:</u> ~~includes:~~
~~= a~~

performing <u>a</u> quality testing <u>operation by</u> ~~operation, consisting of~~ testing whether the quality of the extracted watermark is <u>satisfactory; and</u> ~~satisfactory; and =~~
~~as long as the quality is not satisfactory, an~~

performing <u>an</u> additional <u>decoding</u> iteration or half-iteration <u>when the quality</u> <u>testing is not satisfactory</u> ~~in the decoding~~, so as to finally obtain the optimum number of <u>decoding</u> iterations or half-iterations to be applied as a parameter of the <u>decoding operation</u> ~~decoding~~.

18. (Currently Amended) <u>A decoding</u> ~~Decoding~~ method according to Claim 15, wherein <u>said decoding step is performed by an</u> ~~the~~ iterative decoder <u>comprising</u> ~~is~~ a turbodecoder.

19. (Currently Amended) A decoding ~~Decoding~~ method according to Claim 15, wherein the received digital signal is an image signal.

20. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method of receiving a digital signal, including steps according to which:~~ a comprising the steps of:

receiving ~~operation is performed, consisting of receiving~~ modulated encoded symbols containing a watermark; ~~a demodulation operation is performed, consisting of~~

demodulating the received modulated encoded symbols, so as to obtain demodulated encoded data; and ~~data; and a decoding operation is performed, consisting of~~

decoding the demodulated encoded data using a decoding method according to Claim 15.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~Receiving~~ method according to Claim 20, wherein said ~~the~~ ~~demodulation~~ demodulating step ~~operation~~ comprises the step ~~consists of~~ applying a demodulation corresponding to a modulation of the QPSK type.

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~Receiving~~ method according to Claim 20, wherein said demodulating ~~the demodulation~~ step comprises the step ~~operation consists~~ of applying a demodulation corresponding to a modulation of the OFDM type.

23. (Currently Amended) A device Device for decoding a received digital signal, said the

digital signal having been watermarked with a known watermark, comprising: having: =

decoding means, for

decoding means for decoding at least part of the digital signal by means of a

parameterisable iterative decoder; decoder; - watermark extraction means, for

watermark extracting means for extracting the watermark from the decoded signal; signal;

=comparison means, for

comparing means for comparing the extracted watermark with the known watermark; and

watermark; and = modification means, for

modifying means for modifying, if necessary, at least one parameter of the decoding

means according to the result of the comparison performed by said comparing means.

24. (Currently Amended) A decoding Decoding device according to Claim 23,

wherein said decoding means performs a number of decoding iterations on at least part of

the received digital signal,

wherein said modifying the modification means comprises: include: =

means of   calculating means for calculating the

number of decoding iterations to be performed by said decoding means, in order to determine a

the number of decoding iterations to be applied as a parameter of the said decoding means,

according to the result of the comparison by said comparing means; and ; and =

means of

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adjusting means for adjusting the decoding operations of said decoding means, in

order to apply, during the decoding by the decoding means, the number of ~~iterations~~ previously

determined decoding iterations.

25. (Currently Amended) A decoding ~~Decoding~~ device according to Claim 23,

wherein ~~the~~ said decoding means comprises ~~are~~ partial decoding means for ~~means, for~~

decoding the received digital data by means of an iterative decoder, by applying a decoding ~~an~~

iteration or a decoding half-iteration, ~~the~~ said partial decoding means outputting a partially

decoded watermarked digital signal; and

wherein ~~the~~ said modifying ~~modification~~ means comprises quality ~~include: - quality~~

testing means for ~~means, for~~ testing whether the quality of the extracted watermark is

satisfactory, ~~satisfactory;~~

said partial decoding means effecting, as long as the quality is not satisfactory, an

additional decoding iteration or half-iteration ~~in the decoding~~, so as to supply by ~~in~~ the end of the

decoding operation performed by said decoding means on the digital signal the optimum number

of decoding iterations or half-iterations to be applied as a parameter of the decoding means.

26. (Currently Amended) A decoding ~~Decoding~~ device according to Claim 23, wherein

~~the~~ said iterative decoder is a turbodecoder.

27. (Currently Amended) <u>A decoding</u> ~~Decoding~~ device according to Claim 23, wherein the <u>received</u> digital signal is an image signal.

28. (Currently Amended) <u>A device comprising:</u> ~~Device for receiving a digital signal,~~

~~having: - receiving means, for~~

<u>receiving means for</u> receiving modulated <u>encoded, symbols containing a watermark;</u>

~~symbols;   -   demodulation means, for~~

<u>demodulating means for</u> demodulating the <u>received</u> modulated <u>encoded</u> symbols ~~received,~~

~~the demodulation means~~ <u>and</u> outputting demodulated <u>encoded data; and</u> ~~data, and -~~

~~decoding means, for~~

<u>decoding means for</u> decoding the demodulated data by means of a decoding device according to Claim 23.

29. (Currently Amended) <u>A receiving</u> ~~Receiving~~ device according to Claim 28, wherein ~~the~~ <u>said demodulating</u> ~~demodulation~~ means <u>applies</u> ~~apply~~ a demodulation corresponding to a modulation of the QPSK type.

30. (Currently Amended) <u>A receiving</u> ~~Receiving~~ device according to Claim 28, wherein ~~the~~ <u>said demodulating</u> ~~demodulation~~ means <u>applies</u> ~~apply~~ a demodulation corresponding to a modulation of the OFDM type.

31. (Currently Amended) A digital ~~Digital~~ signal processing apparatus comprising:

means for processing a digital signal; and

means for implementing ~~apparatus, having means adapted to~~ implement a sending

method for sending the processed digital signal according to Claim 1.

32. (Currently Amended) A digital ~~Digital~~ signal processing apparatus comprising:

~~apparatus, having~~

means for decoding a received digital signal according to the ~~adapted to implement a~~

decoding method ~~according to~~ of Claim 15; and

means for processing the received, decoded digital signal.

33. (Currently Amended) A digital ~~Digital~~ signal processing apparatus comprising

~~apparatus, having~~ a sending device according to Claim 8.

34. (Currently Amended) A digital ~~Digital~~ signal processing apparatus comprising

~~apparatus, having~~ a decoding device according to Claim 23.

35. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:

a base station; and

at least one peripheral station configured to communicate with said base station, wherein said at least one peripheral station comprises a sending device configured ~~Telecommunications network, having means adapted~~ to implement a sending method according to Claim 1.

36. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:

a base station; and

at least one peripheral station configured to communicate with said base station, wherein said at least one peripheral station comprises a receiving device configured ~~Telecommunications network, having means adapted~~ to implement a receiving method according to Claim 20.

37. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network comprising ~~Telecommunications network, having~~ a sending device according to Claim 8.

38. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network comprising ~~Telecommunications network, having an information~~ a receiving device according to Claim 28.

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39. (Currently Amended) A mobile ~~Mobile~~ station in a telecommunications network comprising:

a source of data representable by a digital signal; and

means for sending a digital signal representing the data ~~network, having means adapted to implement a~~ according to the sending method ~~according to~~ of Claim 1.

40. (Currently Amended) A mobile ~~Mobile~~ station in a telecommunications network comprising:

a module configured to receive electromagnetic signals; and ~~network, having means adapted to implement~~

a device receiving the electromagnetic signals from said module and configured to perform the ~~a~~ receiving method according to Claim 20 on the electromagnetic signals received from said module.

41. (Currently Amended) A mobile ~~Mobile~~ station in a telecommunications network comprising ~~Mobile station in a telecommunications network, having~~ a sending device according to Claim 8.

42. (Currently Amended) A mobile ~~Mobile~~ station in a telecommunications network, comprising ~~having~~ a receiving device according to Claim 28.

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43. (Currently Amended) <u>A base</u> ~~Base~~ station in a telecommunications <u>network</u> <u>comprising a sending device configured</u> ~~network, having means adapted~~ to implement a sending method according to Claim 1.

44. (Currently Amended) <u>A base</u> ~~Base~~ station in a telecommunications <u>network</u> <u>comprising a receiving device configured</u> ~~network, having means adapted~~ to implement a ~~receiving~~ method according to Claim 20.

45. (Currently Amended) <u>A base</u> ~~Base~~ station in a telecommunications <u>network</u> <u>comprising</u> ~~network, having~~ a sending device according to Claim 8.

46. (Currently Amended) <u>A base</u> ~~Base~~ station in a telecommunications <u>network</u> <u>comprising</u> ~~network, having~~ a receiving device according to Claim 28.

47. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium ~~which can be read~~ <u>readable</u> by a computer or a microprocessor, <u>and</u> storing instructions of a computer <u>program for instructing</u> <u>the computer or microprocessor to implement</u> ~~program, making it possible to implement~~ a sending method according to Claim 1.

48. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium according to Claim 47, wherein said information storage medium it is removable, partially or totally removable from a device in which said information storage medium is stored for reading by the computer or the microprocessor.

49. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium which can be read readable by a computer or a microprocessor, and storing instructions of a computer program for instructing the computer or microprocessor to implement program, making it possible to implement a decoding method according to Claim 15.

50. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium according to Claim 49, wherein said information storage medium it is removable, partially or totally removable from a device in which said information storage medium is stored for reading by the computer or the microprocessor.

51. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied in a computer readable medium for instructing a computer to perform performing product containing sequences of instructions for implementing a sending method according to Claim 1.

52. (Currently Amended) A computer program <u>embodied in a computer readable</u> <u>medium for instructing a computer to perform</u> ~~product containing~~ sequences of instructions for implementing a decoding method according to Claim 15.